

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

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TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DR. ROBERT SEAMANS, ERDA

ADMINISTRATOR

1. ON SEPTEMBER 25 DR. ROBERT SEAMANS, ERDA ADMINISTRATOR, ACCOMPANIED BY NELSON SIEVERING, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, VISITED OECD AND IEA SECRETARIAT. THE PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO OBTAIN OVERVIEW OF IEA R&D ACTIVITIES FROM POINT OF VIEW OF SECRETARIAT AND TO DISCUSS FORTHCOMING MEETING OF IEA GOVERNING BOARD WITH HIGH LEVEL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATION. MEETING TO BE HELD END OF NOVEMBER, SUBJECT TO GOVERNING BOARD APPROVAL ON OCTOBER 10.

2. DR. SEAMANS MET WITH SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THERE WAS MUTUAL AFFIRMATION OF SUPPORT AND IMPORTANCE OF FORTHCOMING HIGH LEVEL R&D MEETING. MAJOR DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD WITH IEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LANTZKE AND THE STAFF. DR. SEAMANS ALSO RECEIVED BRIEFINGS FROM NEA DIRECTOR SAELAND, ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR RODERICK, AND OSHIMA, HEAD OF DSTI ON ENERGY-RELATED PROGRAMS.

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3. IN THOSE DISCUSSIONS DR. SEAMANS STATED THAT THE NOVEMBER MEETING SHOULD GO FORWARD AND THAT WE SHOULD NOT WAIT FOR A PERFECT AGENDA. THE GROUP FELT THAT THE AGENDA PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE THREE MAJOR ITEMS. THE FIRST THEME WOULD BE CONCEPTUAL AND DESCRIBE ENERGY R&D STRATEGIES AND RATIONALE. THE DISCUSSION PAPER FOR THIS THEME IS BEING PREPARED BY ROGER LEGASSIE OF THE ERDA STAFF. THE SECOND ITEM ON THE AGENDA WOULD BE THE DISCUSSION OF PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE R&D PROGRAMS WITH POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THOSE WHOSE IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENTS ARE READY. THE THIRD AGENDA ITEM WILL BE DISCUSSION OF THE R&D CHAPTER OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON LONG TERM COOPERATION.

4. IN ADDITION TO THE INHERENT IMPORTANCE OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING DR. LANTZKE FELT THAT HE COULD GO FORWARD WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF A SMALL, BUT RELEVANT, IEA R&D STAFF ONLY AFTER THE HIGH LEVEL MEETING HAD OCCURRED. THERE WAS A GENERAL CONSENSUS AND ALSO GENERAL EXPECTATION THAT THE MEETING WOULD ALSO CATALYSE THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATED OECD IEA R&D PROGRAMS AND STAFF STRUCTURES.
TURNER

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